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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Reserve Battalion Commander: Lt. Col. Hora (fnu)

In charge of tank repairs in Ordnance Company: 2nd Lt. Karel Lolec; served with "Western Brigade" during the war and is a non-Communist.

In charge of other repairs in Ordnance Company: 2nd Lt. Josef Velicka; served with "Western Brigade" during the war and is a non-Communist.

4. The 23 Tank Brigade has the following armament:

a. 1st and 3rd Company each:

8 Cromwell tanks, 75 mm cannon
2 Cromwell tanks, 95 mm howitzer

b. 2nd and 4th Company each:

8 Cromwell tanks, 75 mm cannon

c. Hq. Company:

4 Cromwell tanks, equipped as commander's tanks
7 Humber armored cars (British, Radio Mark 19, Bren gun) for reconnaissance
7 Stuart tanks, 37 mm. cannon, Browning machine gun
7 International half tracks (5 ambulances, 1 track outfitted as a blacksmith shop, 1 track outfitted as a mechanics shop)

d. Ordnance Company:

1 recovery truck for Cromwell tanks
1 recovery truck for Panther tanks
2 Ward-La Frances for recovery (wheeled vehicles)
1 Busing for recovery (wheeled vehicle with crane)
5 3-ton Austin trucks with trailers for supply
2 Fordson trucks for supply
2 Ford trucks for supply
1 other truck for supply
1 jeep
1 motorcycle

e. In addition, the 23 Tank Brigade has the following vehicles:*

80 Cromwell tanks including reserve tanks
14 Stuart tanks including reserve tanks
6 "ST-3" (with original Eska engines) - for training drivers
24 Bren gun carriers (Universal and Lloyd) including a battery charging carrier
10 jeeps
2 Tatra cars
1 Humber car
1 DKW car
1 KDF car
1 Ariel motorcycle
An unknown number of 3-ton trucks (Ford, Fordson, Dodge, Austin)

f. All wheeled vehicles have high mileage readings; some of them have rebuilt engines. Sixty percent of the tanks are out of order, with their engines at Avia for repair. Twenty percent of the tanks have new or repaired engines supplied by Avia.

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5. The following arms are held:

a. By each company:

2 Mark 26-45 machine guns
 An unknown number of Mark N sub-machine guns, which have frequent failures when firing.
 An unknown number of Mark N rifles

b. By each company for emergency:

10,000 rounds for rifles
 10,000 rounds for machine guns
 8,000 rounds for sub-machine guns

c. By the reserve company and kept in tanks:

64 cannon rounds
 22 boxes of 225 rounds each for machine guns
 Skoda Mark 45 hand grenades
 Smoke grenades
 Ammunition for light machine guns

6. The Ordnance Company has the following shops, which are very well equipped:

Metal turning	Electrical
Blacksmith	Welding
Tinsmith	Carpenter

7. In May 1949, when the 22 Tank Brigade was deactivated, the 23 Tank Brigade received 40 well-trained mechanics from it. In June 1949, when the 24 Tank Brigade was deactivated, the 23 Tank Brigade received 15 Cromwell tanks from it.

8. At Milovice there is a special tank testing unit whose tasks are to test new tanks and parts, to break in newly rebuilt PZ-4 tanks, and to carry out tests on new tank guns in the presence of factory experts. This testing unit was created during October 1948. Originally it was an unofficial organization of the Ordnance Company of the 23 Tank Brigade. Later, ten mechanics from each tank brigade were sent to this unit. The commander of the unit is Major Karel Dvorak; deputy commander is 1st Capt. Josef Bilek. Attached to the unit is 1st Capt. Janocko, a Slovakian expert who was formerly attached to CKD Prague.

9. The unit is independent and accountable directly to the MNO (Ministry of National Defense). An exception was made when from ten to fifteen tanks of the T-34 type were delivered from the USSR. They were broken in secretly at an unknown location (probably near Dedice (050/M45) near Brno (P50/N40)) under the command of Lt. Col. Emil Dolejssek of the Army Corps of Olomouc (P50/N85).

* Comment: The original report is not clear. This may mean total vehicles of the 13 Tank Brigade or additional vehicles to those listed above.

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